

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

The written description portion of the specification and claims 1-13 and 16-37 have been amended. Claims 14 and 15 have been canceled, and claims 38-43 have been added. Claims 1-13 and 16-43 are now pending in the application. Claims 1, 38, and 43 are independent. The rejections are respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

The specification has been editorially amended for consistency and to correct certain informalities. The claims have been amended to more fully comply with U.S. practice. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of the invention originally recited in claims 4, 7, 14, and 15. Claims 38-43 have been added to further define the scope of Applicants' invention. Entry of each of the amendments is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) - McDaniel

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) - McDaniel

Claims 1-15, 18-27, and 29-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US 4,256,526 to McDaniel. Claims 16, 17, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McDaniel.

Each of the rejections based on McDaniel is respectfully deemed to be obviated. As indicated above, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of the invention originally recited in claims 4, 7, 14, and 15. The bottoming device defined by claim 1 has a gluer that includes, *inter alia*, an "application head including a plurality of valves each having at least one glue output orifice through which the glue is directly applied to the folded bottom and/or the sheet, the valves being arranged in a configuration that includes at least a first valve row (VRi) and a second valve row (VRii) with each of the first and second valve rows extending along a length of the application head in a direction (y) that is transverse to a bag transfer direction (x)."

McDaniel neither anticipates nor would have rendered obvious the presently claimed invention. McDaniel discloses a method in which adhesive is applied through gun 40, gun 41, and gun 42 (McDaniel column 6, lines 49-57; Figure 2). Gun 40 has one extrusion nozzle 36 and gun 41 has one extrusion nozzle 37; gun 42 has one spray nozzle 38.

That is not Applicants' claimed device. Applicants' claimed application head feature has multiple valves, i.e., valves located in at least two rows in order to provide high resolution of the applied adhesive. That is, the claimed application head has a valve configuration that includes "at least a first valve row (VRi) and a second valve row (VRii) with each of the first and second valve rows extending along a length of the application head in a


direction (y) that is transverse to a bag transfer direction (x). The reason for utilizing the claimed valve configuration is disclosed by Applicants at specification page 8, lines 1-4: "In case of an arrangement of a very large number of valves 32 on one application head 61, it is possible to arrange the glue lines in the y direction close to one another and at the same time to achieve a very high resolution in the formation of the adhesive profile." McDaniel neither anticipates nor would have rendered obvious the presently claimed invention.

New claims 38-43 have been added to further define the scope of protection sought for Applicants' invention. New claims 38-43 are also allowable.

In view of the foregoing, this application is now in condition for allowance. If the examiner believes that an interview might expedite prosecution, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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